A Finding Aid to the
Larry Kaplan Papers

Manuscript Collection No. 806
Larry Kaplan Papers


MS-806

The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives

Kaplan, Larry, 1929-1996

0.8 linear feet (2 Hollinger boxes)

English

Larry Kaplan was born in Paterson, New Jersey. He came to the rabbinate later in life, deciding to go back to school after having his Bar Mitzvah at the age of 26. After enrolling in the Rutgers Extension Program in Paterson, he moved to Ohio to attend the University of Cincinnati and graduated cum laude with a degree in Philosophy in 1961. Ordained from the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in 1965, he served congregations in St. Louis, Missouri, Bowie, Maryland, and Huntington, West Virginia, before assuming the post of rabbi at Temple Beth Or, Washington Township, New Jersey from 1968-1976.

Kaplan left New Jersey for Temple Judah in Cedar Rapids, Iowa in 1977. He served as rabbi there until the late 1980s. He then became the head rabbi at Temple Beth Sholom in Danville, Virginia, followed by Rodeph Shalom in Montreal, Canada. He served Temple Shalom in Port Charlotte, Florida from 1992 until his death in 1996. In 1990, Kaplan was awarded an honorary doctor of divinity degree from HUC-JIR for twenty-five years of service to the rabbinate. He taught courses in Judaism at Florida Southern University, was treasurer of the Ministerial Association of Port Charlotte, served on the ethics committee for Columbia Fawcett Hospital, and belonged to the Rotarian Society and Jewish Chautauqua Society.

Kaplan's first wife, Esther, passed away during his tenure at Temple Beth Or. He married his second wife, Phyllis, in 1970. He had two children, Seth and Wendi.

This collection consists mostly of correspondence, along with some service materials and announcements for Temple Judah in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Correspondence is both personal and professional from his years in Iowa. Included in this collection is correspondence with the General Assembly of Virginia regarding the establishment of April 10 as Holocaust Remembrance Day, as well as a conflict in 1983 with Ahron Y. Lubling, an Orthodox rabbi who claimed Larry Kaplan and the Reform Jewish community were not really "Jewish".

This collection is arranged in one (1) series: A. General.

The collection is open for use; no restrictions apply.

Footnotes and bibliographic references should refer to the Larry Kaplan Papers and the American Jewish Archives. A suggestion for at least the first citation is as follows:

[Description], [Date], Box #, Folder #. MS-806. Larry Kaplan Papers. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Received from Larry Kaplan, Port Charlotte, Fla., January 1993.

Processed by Michelle Wirth, September 2011.

Rabbis / Synagogues -- Iowa -- Cedar Rapids / Synagogues -- Virginia -- Danville

Kaplan, Larry, 1929-1996
Corporate Names  Temple Beth Sholom (Danville, Va.) / Temple Judah (Cedar Rapids, Iowa)

Series A. General, 1971-1987

Arrangement  Arranged chronologically.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 1. Folder 1. Correspondence and miscellaneous, 1971-1977
Box 1. Folder 2. Correspondence, 1979-1980
Box 1. Folder 3. Correspondence, 1981
Box 1. Folder 4. Correspondence, 1982
Box 1. Folder 5. Correspondence, 1983
Box 1. Folder 6. Correspondence, 1984
Box 1. Folder 7. Correspondence, 1985
Box 2. Folder 1. Correspondence, 1986
Box 2. Folder 2. Correspondence, 1987
Box 2. Folder 3. Services and announcements, 1985-1987